



August 3, 2007

Camp Manistique Closure Plans Postponed

I have some important news to share with you. Following discussions with Governor Granholm, we are postponing the closure of Camp Manistique originally scheduled for September 8th.

Through recent discussions with officials from throughout the Upper Peninsula, we know there exists a strong possibility for a suitable alternative use for this site. Therefore we are working with the law enforcement community, as well as City of Manistique officials and representatives from Schoolcraft County, to continue exploring other potential uses for the facility. While we still plan to close Camp Manistique, it is our hope that at some future date we can make a seamless transition from Camp Manistique as a correctional facility to utilization of the facility for some other viable option. In the meantime, Camp Manistique will remain open indefinitely and continue with normal operations as a minimum security correctional facility.

On a personal note, Thursday afternoon I visited Camp Manistique and spoke to the staff about this decision. I am always impressed by the honesty, openness and professionalism our Corrections staff displays during difficult times. I apologize for the anxiety this situation has caused the employees of Camp Manistique and their families. This decision was NEVER based on the efficiency, productivity or performance of the employees at the facility. The decision continues to be about the budget crisis facing state government.

I am confident we can move forward toward a resolution that creates the best situation and outcome for our staff, the citizens of Michigan and the Manistique community.

Patricia L. Caruso

Director, Michigan Department of Corrections